

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-22 are canceled. Claims 23-31 are new. All pending claims and their present status are produced below.

1 1-22. (Canceled)

1 23. (New) A method for tracking historical data from different sources, comprising:
2 processing source-specific data originating at sources with disparate formats into
3 source-independent data with a single, common format;
4 storing the source-independent data;
5 automatically determining dimensions of the stored data having historically
6 significant attributes; and
7 in response to a change to a dimension having a historically significant attribute,
8 creating a historical record of the change.

1 24. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising:
2 in response to a change to a dimension without a historically significant attribute,
3 overwriting the dimension.

1 25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein creating a historical record of the change
2 further comprises:
3 maintaining the stored dimension having a historically significant attribute in a first
4 record; and
5 storing the change to the dimension having a historically significant attribute in a
6 second record.

1 26. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein creating a historical record of the change
2 further comprises:

3 creating a first record for the stored dimension having a historically significant
4 attribute;
5 generating a first key;
6 associating the first key with the first record;
7 creating a second record to store the change to the dimension having a historically
8 significant attribute;
9 re-associating the first key with the second record;
10 generating a second key; and
11 associating the second key with the first record.

1 27. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein processing source-specific data originating at
2 sources with disparate formats into source-independent data with a single, common format
3 further comprises:
4 performing source-related clean up.

1 28. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein processing source-specific data originating
2 at sources with disparate formats into source-independent data with a single, common format
3 further comprises:
4 configuring unique key identification information.

1 29. (New) A computer program product for tracking historical data from different
2 sources, comprising:
3 a computer-readable medium; and
4 computer program code, encoded on the medium, for controlling a computer system
5 to perform the operations of:

6 processing source-specific data originating at sources with disparate formats
7 into source-independent data with a single, common format;
8 storing the source-independent data;
9 automatically determining dimensions of the stored data having historically
10 significant attributes; and
11 in response to a change to a dimension having a historically significant
12 attribute, creating a historical record of the change.

1 30. (New) A system for tracking historical data from different sources, comprising:
2 a source adapter for processing source-specific data originating at sources with
3 disparate formats into source-independent data with a single, common format;
4 and
5 an analytic data interface for storing the source-independent data, automatically
6 determining dimensions of the stored data having historically significant
7 attributes, and creating a historical record of a change to a dimension having a
8 historically significant attribute.

1 31. (New) The system of claim 30, wherein the analytic data interface further comprises:
2 a record generation module for storing dimensions;
3 a key generation module for generating keys to uniquely identify records; and
4 an association module for associating and re-associating selected keys with selected
5 records.